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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/16/2016
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [BF](#)
SUBJECT: BELARUS RESOLUTIONS AT UNITED NATIONS

REF: SECSTATE 187018

Classified By: DCM D. Brent Hardt. Reasons: 1.5 (b) and (d).

[¶1.](#) (C) DCM delivered reftel demarche and non-paper to MFA PermSec Rodgers, following up earlier conversations on the UNGA Third Committee resolutions. DCM emphasized that under UN rules for this vote, an abstention would have the same effect as a "yes" vote and that we wanted these three retaliatory resolutions to be voted down. He further stressed that the U.S. would be closely following how countries voted on these resolutions.

[¶2.](#) (C) The PermSec indicated that she would consult with her mission in New York on the resolutions, but expressed surprise that an abstention or absence would have the same effect as a yes vote.
ROOD